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(54) Title: DETECTION OF HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to *in vitro* methods of screening human subjects for the presence of human papillo-  
mavirus (HPV) which exhibits loss of regulation of E6/E7 mRNA expression and loss of replication and/or expression of a stabilized  
pre-mRNA encoding full length E6 protein. In particular, the invention provides *in vitro* methods of screening for persistent cell  
abnormalities or persistent CIN III lesions, cancer in situ or high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (HSIL). The methods are  
useful in the context of cervical cancer screening.

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